

May 17, 2022

Council Chamber  
Vigo County Government Center  
Terre Haute, Indiana

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Chris Switzer, Mike Morris and Brendan Kearns

**Others Present:** County Attorneys Terry Modesitt and Joel Modesitt, Auditor James Bramble, Chief Deputy Auditor Cheryl Loudermilk, Diana Winsted-Smith, Chris Eldridge, Kevin Gardner, Bill Watson, Kara Wright, Bruce Allen, Laura Tohill, Tim Cunningham, Josie Thompson, Larry Robbins, Bruce Allen, Bill Watson, Bob Leib, Laureen Hoffman, and Kristy Jerrell.

**Pledge of Allegiance.**

Chris Switzer called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Review of Minutes/Claims.** Auditor James Bramble presented meeting minutes for May 4, 2022, and rezoning minutes for May 10, 2022, for approval. Chris Switzer made a motion to approve both sets of minutes. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Bramble then presented the Board with expenditures for the period of April 30, 2022 through May 6, 2022 in the amount of \$3,346,877.24. Brendan Kearns made a motion to approve the April 30, 2022 through May 6, 2022 claims in the total amount of \$3,346,877.24. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed. Mr. Bramble then presented expenditures for the period of May 7, 2022 through May 13, 2022 in the amount of \$737,463.23 plus payroll in the amount of \$1,140,108.11 for a total amount of \$1,877,571.34. Mike Morris made a motion to approve the May 7, 2022 through May 13, 2022 claims in the amount of \$737,463.23 plus payroll in the amount of \$1,140,108.11 for a total amount of \$1,877,571.34. Brendan Kearns seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**Approval of Health Insurance - Commissioners.** Brendan Kearns stated that through the efforts of our local insurance company, the County was going to be able to go another year without raising the premiums for any employees. It has been at least four years that premiums have not been raised. The group our insurance is provided by is Sun Life, Optum, and Paramount. Brendan Kearns made a motion to move forward with this insurance. Mike Morris seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed.

**St. Mary's Grant Administration Services – Kristy Jerrell.** Karen Dyer, Vice President for Advancement and Strategic Initiatives at St. Mary-of-the-Woods College, advised that they were coming today to request that Vigo County be the lead applicant in a Community Development block grant for the Indiana Office of Community Enrolled affairs ("OCRA") on a project that St. Mary's is bringing forward for historic renovation of their conservatory of music building. She briefly described the use of the conservatory for both public and private events. She said they are in the process of raising private philanthropic dollars for this project as well. They have raised about \$430,000 to renovate the auditorium and are in a \$50,000 grant with the IDNR, a Historic Preservation grant, to preserve the limestone steps and entrance. The grant being discussed today is a next step that would help them preserve the outside of the building, the tuckpointing, the windows, and help keep the building dry and safe (it is over 100 years old). A private institution is not eligible to ask for the grant. It must come through the County. They would need county support in order to proceed. Kristy Jerrell, a grant administrator, said that she had been engaged by the college to work on this grant and gave a brief review of her background and qualifications. This program is federal grant dollars that trickles down to the

Lieutenant Governor's office and the Lieutenant Governor awards and disburses the funds. It is a highly competitive program. One stipulation is that the applicant has to be a city, a town or a County. Technically, the County would be the applicant and like a pass-through agency similar to what had been done on a prior project. They will be using a local engineer on the project and using the Wabash Valley Community Foundation as a pass-through account to gain extra points on the application. Mainly, all the work and all the funds will be coming from the college but they need the blessing of the Commissioners to be the lead applicant for the project. There was a brief discussion about whether the County could go ahead with other OCRA grants. If the grant is awarded, the College would draw the money down as they go, it is not awarded as a lump sum. The funds will go to the Auditor's Office and there would be five business days for the Auditor to write the check out. Chris Switzer made a motion to have Vigo County be the lead component for the grant for St. Mary-of-the-Woods College. Brendan Kearns seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote of 3-0, the motion unanimously passed. Ms. Jerrells then advised that there would need to be two public hearings. It was decided that they would be held during normal Commissioner meetings, that Ms. Jerrell would take care of the public hearing advertisement, and do the minutes for that as well. There was a discussion about the Conservatory of Music and its history. It was also noted that the Commissioners will have to do a resolution declaring the building as blighted as part of the application. Ms. Jerrells will have that prepared. Also, the Commissioners and the College Board will have to sign a resolution authorizing submission of the grant application and commitment of the local match. The local match would be coming from the college as well. This is a highly competitive grant program and it is all or nothing. They will either get funded or not.

**Fire Department Disconnect – Building Inspection.** Chris Switzer said this could be moved forward or not. Terry Bays was again unable to attend due to other commitments. This basically requires any new construction homes to have an emergency disconnect on the outside of the house so power can be turned off throughout the house in an emergency instead of waiting on a utility company to arrive to kill the power. This is a request to move forward by the Fire Department's request and Building Inspection. The City of Terre Haute already has this in place. Brendan Kearns said that he had not seen this Resolution but had been in contact with a local home builder who said this should not be passed until a clarification had been made about which State Code was being followed. Mr. Kearns was not comfortable voting on this until he had more information. There was some additional discussion. Mike Morris made a motion to move ahead with approval. Chris Switzer seconded the motion. Voting was as follows: Chris Switzer – aye; Mike Morris – aye; Brendan Kearns – no. With a 2-1 vote, the motion carried.

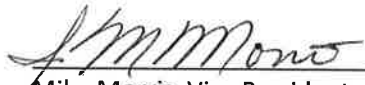
**Comments or other business from Commissioners or other Elected Officials.** There were none.

**Public Comments.** There were none.

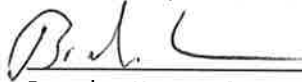
Next meeting will be June 7 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting recessed at 9:22 a.m.



Chris Switzer, President



Mike Morris, Vice President



Brendan Kearns, Secretary

Attest:



James Bramble, Auditor